



Tennessee
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Farm Facts



Debra K. Kenerson
State Statistician



cooperating with
Tennessee
Department
of Agriculture

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn> Phone 1-800-626-0987

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In This Issue

Farms & Land in Farms	1
Prices Received	2
Sorghum MYA & Monthly Prices	2
Chicken & Eggs	2
Annual Milk Production	3
Licensed Dairy Operations	3
Bee & Honey	4

Tennessee Farm Numbers Decline

The number of farms in Tennessee for 2003 was 87,000, down 500 farms from the year earlier. A farm is defined as "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". The number of farms in all sales categories remained unchanged from 2002, except the \$1,000-\$9,999 class which dropped 500 farms. There were 850 farms in the \$500,000 or over economic sales class and 1,200 in \$250,000-\$499,999. Farms with sales of \$100,000-

\$249,999 were estimated at 1,950, while farms in the \$10,000-\$99,999 sales category were estimated at 17,500. There were 65,500 farms in the sales class of \$1,000-\$9,999, which represents three-fourths of the farms in Tennessee. Total land in Tennessee farms decreased 100,000 acres in 2003 to 11.6 million acres. Land in farms with sales of \$500,000 or more and \$250,000-\$499,999 were estimated at 1.4 million and 950,000 acres, respectively. Land in farms with sales between \$10,000-\$99,999 was estimated at 3.6 million acres, while land in farms with sales between \$1,000 and \$9,999 was 4.7 million acres. The average size of all Tennessee farms in 2003 was 133 acres, down 1 acre from the year earlier.

U.S.: The **number of farms** in the United States in 2003 is estimated at 2.13 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2002. The decline in farms occurred in all sales categories except the \$250,000-\$499,999 class which remained unchanged. Total **land in farms**, at 938.8 million acres, decreased 1,550,000 acres from 2002. The average size farm during 2003 was 441 acres, an increase of one acre from the previous year.

Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class: Tennessee, 1998-2003

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Year	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$249,999	\$250,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	Number					
1998	68,000	18,000	1,950	1,250	800	90,000
1999	67,000	18,000	1,950	1,250	800	89,000
2000	66,000	18,000	1,950	1,200	850	88,000
2001	66,000	18,000	1,950	1,200	850	88,000
2002	66,000	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	87,500
2003	65,500	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	87,000

Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class, Tennessee, 1998-2003

Year	Economic Sales Class					Total	Average Size Farm
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$249,999	\$250,000- \$499,999	\$500,000 & Over		
1,000 Acres							Acres
1998	4,800	4,000	900	800	1,400	11,900	132
1999	4,800	4,000	900	800	1,400	11,900	134
2000	4,800	3,700	950	950	1,400	11,800	134
2001	4,800	3,700	950	950	1,400	11,800	134
2002	4,800	3,600	950	950	1,400	11,700	134
2003	4,700	3,600	950	950	1,400	11,600	133

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee and United States, February 2004, with Comparisons

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Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		February 2003	January 2004	February 2004 ¹	February 2003	January 2004	February 2004 ¹
Dollars Per Unit							
Winter Wheat	bu.	3.21	3.87	---	3.52	3.66	3.60
Corn	bu.	2.60	2.44	2.85	2.34	2.39	2.55
Cotton Lint	lb.	.461	.623	.611 ²	.465	.625	.616 ²
Soybeans	bu.	5.76	7.30	8.30	5.55	7.34	7.99
Tobacco	lb.	1.800	1.950	1.900	2.065	1.965	1.920
All beef cattle	cwt.	57.20	69.40	67.80	73.90	80.90	77.80
Steers/heifers	cwt.	72.00	87.00	85.00	78.20	85.40	81.60
Cows	cwt.	35.00	43.00	42.00	38.90	46.10	46.20
Calves	cwt.	85.00	101.00	98.00	97.20	110.00	110.00

¹ Mid-month. ² Based on purchases first half of month.

Prices Received: Sorghum, by Month, Tennessee, for Marketing Years, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, and 2003-2004¹

Year	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan ²	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	MYA
Dollars Per Bushel													
Sorghum													
2001-2002	2.18	2.18	2.11	2.21	³	³	⁴	³	³	⁴	⁴	⁴	2.17
2002-2003	2.63	2.70	2.73	2.67	2.62	³	⁴	³	⁴	³	⁴	⁴	2.68
2003-2004	2.37	2.38	2.37	2.53	³	³							2.38 ⁵

¹ Marketing year is August-July. ² Second year. ³ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. ⁴ Insufficient sales to establish a price. ⁵ Preliminary.

Chicken and Eggs: All layers in the U.S. on February 1, 2004, totaled 338 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 338 million layers consisted of 280 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.48 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2004, averaged 69.8 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from a year ago. Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.88 billion eggs during January 2004, down 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during January, at 315 million, was down 1 percent from a year ago.

Egg production totaled 7.38 billion during January 2004, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.32 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 996 million were broiler-type and 60.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2004 averaged 338 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,184 eggs, up 1 percent from January 2003.

Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State and United States, during January 2003 and 2004

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
Thousands			Number			
Alabama	2,378	2,013	9,989	9,367	1,892	1,890
Arkansas	4,582	4,131	14,849	14,416	1,899	1,894
Georgia	11,186	11,403	20,393	20,674	2,084	2,075
North Carolina	3,330	3,399	10,845	10,839	1,973	1,947
All Other States ²	254,403	252,932	284,834	282,596	1,842	1,714
United States	275,879	273,878	340,910	337,892	2,168	2,184

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee included in other states.

Milk Production: Milk produced on Tennessee farms during 2003 totaled 1.21 billion pounds, down 110 million pounds from 2002. Tennessee milk cows were once again extremely efficient, with the decline in production due to fewer cows. Average milk produced per cow, at 15,253 pounds, increased 310 pounds from 2002, to a record high. Milk cow numbers in the state averaged 79,000 in 2003, down 9,000 cows from the previous year's average of 88,000.

Milk Cows and Production: Tennessee, 1999 - 2003

Year	Number of Milk Cows on Farms ¹	Milk Production Per Cow	Milk Production ²
	Thousands	Pounds	Million Pounds
1999	97	14,608	1,417
2000	95	14,789	1,405
2001	92	14,511	1,335
2002	88	14,943	1,315
2003	79	15,253	1,205

¹ Average number on farms during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: Number and Milk Produced by Quarter, Tennessee, 2002 - 2003

Year	Milk Cows ¹				Milk Production ²			
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
	1,000 Head				Million Pounds			
2002	90	90	87	84	350	360	300	305
2003	82	80	78	77	325	325	270	285

¹ Quarterly average includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Licensed Dairy Operations Decreased 5 Percent in 2003

Tennessee: The number of licensed dairy operation in Tennessee during 2003 fell 5 percent from the year earlier. Total operations, including both Grade A and Grade B dairies, averaged 820 during 2003, down 40 from 2002.

U.S.: The number of licensed dairy operations in the United States during 2003 decreased 5 percent from the previous year. Total operations, including both Grade A and Grade B dairies, averaged 70,410 during 2003, down from 74,110 in 2002. The licensed dairy operations in this report represent the average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk in each State. Data were compiled from information collected by State and other regulatory agencies. The current NASS data series is based on the definition of a milk cow operation as any place having one or more head of milk cows, excluding cows used to nurse calves, on hand at any time of the year. These operations may not necessarily sell milk. The average number of licensed operations are comparable to the current dairy operation data series in that both represent the number of operations during the year. However, the licensed dairy counts, by definition, more closely describe commercial dairy operations.

Milk Cows: Licensed Dairy Operations by Selected States, Tennessee, and United States, 2002 - 2003

State	2002	2003
	Number	Number
AL	120	110
AR	320	290
GA	380	360
KY	1,835	1,630
MS	300	270
MO	2,110	1,980
NC	420	395
Tennessee	860	820
VA	940	910
US	74,110	70,410

Honey Production

Tennessee: Honey production from producers with five or more colonies was 280,000 pounds during 2003, a decrease of 43 percent from 2002 and the lowest in 8 years. The number of honey producing colonies declined 1 thousand to 7 thousand colonies. These colonies produced an average of 40 pounds of honey, a 34 percent decline from the previous year to the lowest since 1991. Honey on hand December 15, 2003, was down from the previous year to a low of 53 thousand pounds. Producers received a price of \$1.53 per pound, 13 cents better than the previous year, for a value of production of \$428,000.

United States: Honey production in 2003 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 181 million pounds, up 5 percent from 2002. There were 2.59 million colonies producing honey in 2003, up 1 percent from 2002. Yield per colony averaged 69.9 pounds, up 5 percent from the 66.7 pounds in 2002. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 40.7 million pounds on December 15, 2003, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Stocks, Price, Value, and Tennessee 1994-2003¹

Year	Colonies of Bees	Honey Production Per Colony	Production	Average Price Per Pound ²	Value of Production	Honey Stocks on Hand for Sale Dec. 15 ³
	1,000	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Cents	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Pounds
1994	6	51	306	98	300	107
1995	5	53	265	117	310	87
1996	5	64	320	154	493	90
1997	7	62	434	147	638	148
1998	7	64	448	132	591	121
1999	8	51	408	130	530	106
2000	9	61	549	143	785	104
2001	8	59	472	139	656	131
2002	8	61	488	140	683	137
2003	7	40	280	153	428	53

¹ Producers with five or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State. ² Prices weighted by sales. ³ Stocks held by producers.